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21 August 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. []

SUBJECT: ^{Richard}
Dr. Poppe

1. In accordance with your request the following answers have been obtained from Dr. Poppe:

a. The name Soviet University of the Working People of the East is misleading. Although its official name is Stalin University, in reality it is not a university, either in the Western or the Soviet sense. It is a Communist Party school. There are no particular branches or faculties. People do not study natural sciences, medicine or law in that school. They study only the following subjects:

- (1) Russian language;
- (2) History of Russia;
- (3) History of the communist party;
- (4) Program of the communist party;
- (5) Program of the Comintern-Cominform;
- (6) Political Economy;
- (7) Dialectics;
- (8) Marxist philosophy;
- (9) History of their native country;
- (10) Tasks in colonial and semi-colonial countries and methods of work;
- (11) Organizational work in backward countries;
- (12) History of imperialism.

b. Because of the restricted subject matter, students are able to complete their course of study in two or four years.

c. All students are natives of oriental foreign countries. After graduation they always go to their native countries. There they work as organizers of Communist cells, as secretaries to the latter or to party committees, as political leaders in the Red army, as lecturers in workers' study groups, as agents in subversive activities (organization of strikes, revolts, guerrillas).

(1) Aleksander Ivanovich Oshirov, a Buriat went in the early Thirties to Inner Mongolia and there created cells of the Mongolian Peoples party.

(2) Erkin Bato, a Daboor from Hailar in Manchuria, went to his country with the same aim. Later he was accused of pro-Japanese activities and was shot. Two Koreans, Kim and Pak, went to Korea in 1936 to organize Communist cells. Ibrahim Zado, an Iranian Azerbaïjan Turk, went to Iran to organize Communists. Ashurov, an Uigur from Sinkiang, went to Sinkiang in 1935 to organize Communist cells.

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(Kim)
was M-6 representative in Washington, predecessor to H.A.R. (Kim)
resigned in 1949, went to Canada, acquired Canadian citizenship, and
is now a member of the Canadian Scientific Research Council.

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(3) Others were Indians, Japanese, Afghans, Arabs, etc. Their names are unknown. No biographies are known. It may even be that the names above are cover names.

d. No information about Japanese.

e. No information about the Chinese Sun Yat-sen University.

f. The answer to this question has been given in paragraph 1.

(1) As those people get party education only they were able to graduate in two resp. four years. They did not study Marx's or Lenin's works in original texts but in abridgements which are understandable even to primitive people.

g. There are no special universities for Asians anxious to get vocational training. Either they attend Russian universities (medicine, natural sciences, law philology, mathematics, chemistry,) or technical schools, or they attend universities in a Soviet republic speaking a closely related language.

(1) Turks attend the Azerbaijanian university of Baku or any technical school there; Uzbeks or Uigurs from Sinkiang attend schools in Tashkent; Kazakhs from Sinkiang attend the Alma Ata University; Mongols attend schools in Ulan Ude in the Soviet Mongolian republic; Chinese attend Russian for they have no vocational universities except the Sun Yat-sen University. (In Khabarovsk there was a school for Chinese, perhaps another party school.) Since those Asians were freely admitted to any schools except schools for Soviet communists only, and since they studied three years in technical schools, four years in university work, and five years in medicine, they receive an education as good as Russians receive.

(2) There were about 6000 oriental students of all nationalities at any one time.

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